

Kansas Assists Other States Implement Meth Watch Programs

By TJ Ciaffone

KDHE Spills and Meth Lab Programs

They say, “imitation is the highest form of flattery.” If that’s so, then the state of Kansas has received its share of flattery from cities, counties, and states across the country.

The *Kansas Meth Watch Program* is being considered for implementation or has been copied by other cities, counties, and states across the country. The purpose of the *Meth Watch* program is to limit the accessibility of key chemical ingredients (precursors) used to manufacture meth; to reduce the amount of meth precursors stolen or sold, and to provide law enforcement with valuable information when a suspicious transaction takes place.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) and a team of Kansas retailers established the *Kansas Meth Watch Program* in 2000 to combat the manufacture and use of meth in the state. The *Meth Watch Program* encourages all distributors and retailers that sell pseudo-ephedrine-containing products and other meth precursors to participate in this program.



During the past several months, KDHE has been asked for assistance from 12 states or agencies within a state regarding the *Meth Watch Program*. Those states include: Washington, Oregon, North Dakota, Tennessee, Alaska, Wyoming, Iowa, North Carolina, Alabama, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania.

All of the organizations are working toward the same goals as the *Meth Watch Program* and have agreed to use the trademarked logo that KDHE designed almost three years ago. Each state must agree to only change the name of the state so that the logo becomes recognized nationwide.

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